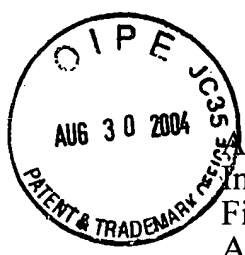


41

*2/17/04*



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. ....09/688,657  
Inventorship .....Hernandez-Valencia  
Filing Date .....October 16, 2000  
Assignee.....Lucent Technologies Inc.  
Art Unit.....2667  
Examiner .....Daniel K. Lam  
Docket No. ....18-1  
Customer No.....23,307  
Confirmation No.....1470  
Title: Mapping of Block-Encoded Data Formats onto a Byte/Bit Synchronous  
Transport Medium

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 29, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 02 2004  
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2004, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the "Listing of Claims" beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** being on page 8 of this paper.